Shift to micro-economic policy planning

2095. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would shift from the macro-economic policy planning to micro-economic policy planning in the 9th Five Year Plan;

(b) whether this suggestion has been discussed in the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, whether such a change would effect integration of the rural economy with the industrial sector;

(d) whether any thought has been given to the long term impact on rural areas, in view of total change in planning from macro-level to micro-level; and

(e) the details of the assessment of such far-reaching proposed changes done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir. The Ninth Five Year Plan will contain both macro-economic policies and sector specific policies.

(b) to (e): Does not arise.

Funds Provided to DGHC

2096. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money provided by the Central Government as well as the West Bengal Government to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council (DGHC) during the last 8 years, separately; and

(b) the details of the developments made by the DGHC from out of above assistance during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Under Special Area Plan Planning Commission allocates funds to the Government of West Bengal for development of its designated Hill Areas. During the period 1989-90 to 1995-96 Planning Commission allocated a total sum of Rs. 135.41 crore to the Government of West Bengal.

The Government of West Bengal release funds to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council under the heads of non-plan, State Plan, Special Central Assistance, Centrally Sponsored Scheme and Seventh Plan committed liabilities. During the reference period the Government of West Bengal release a total amount of Rs. 272.3787 crore.

(b) Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council implements a number of development programmes in the areas of communications, tourism, water supply, agriculture, forestry, etc. In the communication sector the focus is on completion of on-going schemes like repair/construction of roads/bridges. Construction of trekkers hut, introduction of adventure tourism activities i.e. high altitude trekking, river rafting and other promotional activities are some of the important schemes under implementation in the tourism sector. Improvement of water supply in the town in stages, promotion of cultivation of vegetables and development of flora and fauna are other important schemes under implementation in the hilly areas.

Transfer Policy in CSIR

2097. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Section Officers, Accounts Officers, Administrative Officers, Sr. Finance and Accounts Officer and Senior Administrative Officers in the CSIR are working at the same place for more than five years, even after their promotions;

(b) whether the CSIR has evolved a policy for their inter-State transfer after three years;

(c) what is the tenure of an officer, either in accounts or in administrative fields in one State; and

(d) what steps Government would take to formulate a policy on inter-State transfer of the above cadres after a certain period so that they do not develop vested interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) Section Officers, Administrative Officers, Finance and Accounts Officers, Stores Verification/Purchase Officers etc. constitute the common cadre in CSIR. These Officers are working in pay scale of Rs. 2000-3200/3500 and above and carry All India transfer obligation.

There is no fixed tenure of posting of these Officers in the CSIR Laboratories or at CSIR Headquarters. However, a period of more than five years at a station is considered as one of the broad criteria for transfer of Officers of this cadre from one station to another.

Transfer normaly accompany promotion except for compelling circumstances where postings have to be made on extreme compassionate grounds or in public interest. Following criteria are kept in view while effecting transfer of the common cadre staff:

(i) Officers who have spent more than 11 years i.e. 1/3rd of qualifying service for the purpose of pension, at stations different from their present posting are allowed to retain their station or given posting of their choice.

(ii) Officers who have less than three years before superannuation.

(iii) Woman staff are not moved from the station unless there are compelling reasons to do so e.g. non-availability of posts at their present place of posting etc.

(iv) Staff promoted from local cadre posts as Section Officers/Private Secretaries are adjusted at their present station to the extent possible.

(d) The policy is implemented effectively and provides healthy mobility to officers of the common cadre.

Memorandum of Understanding Between ISRO and Canadian Space Agency

2098. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Canadian Space Agency recently;

(b) if so, what are the objectives thereof;

(c) whether any similar Memorandum of Understanding was signed earlier by ISRO with any other space agency; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Canadian Space Agency on October 15, 1996 on co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

(b) The broad areas of co-operation include study of co-operative programmes in satellites intended for space research and applications of space technology, studies related to satellite communications and satellite remote sensing, organisation of training facilities and programmes, exchange of technical